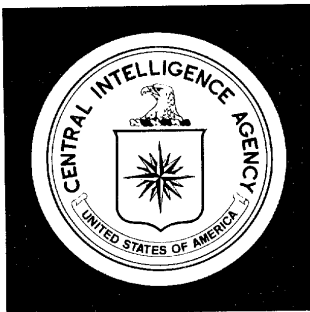


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CIA/SAVA / WIND 730127



## WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

*Week Ending January 27, 1973*

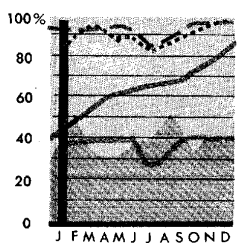
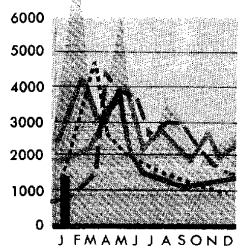
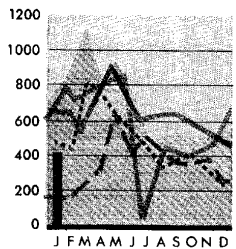
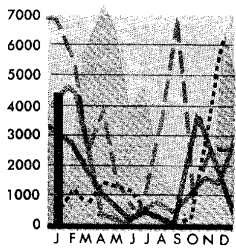
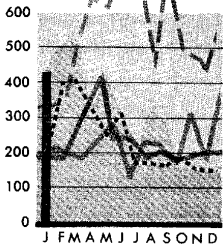
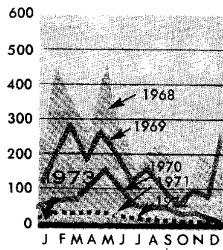
**NSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File.**

*For the President Only*

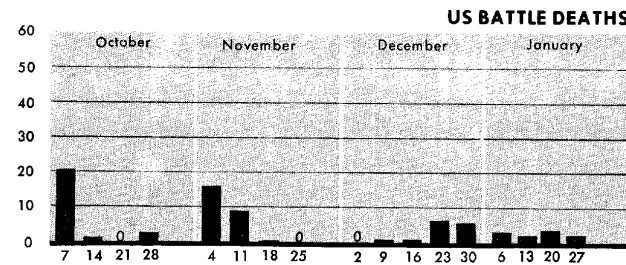
~~Top Secret~~

# SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

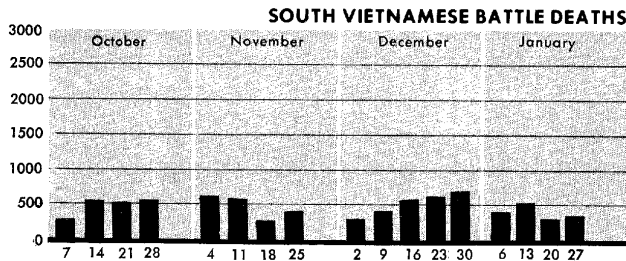
1968-1973  
Weekly average for each month



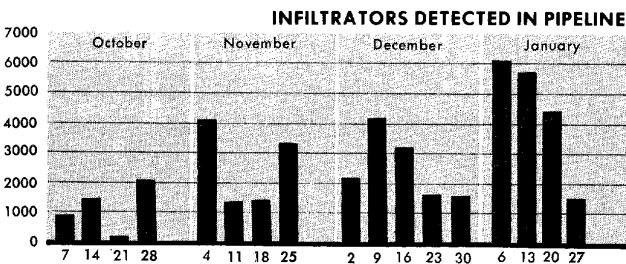
OCTOBER 1972 — JANUARY 1973  
Weekly data as reported



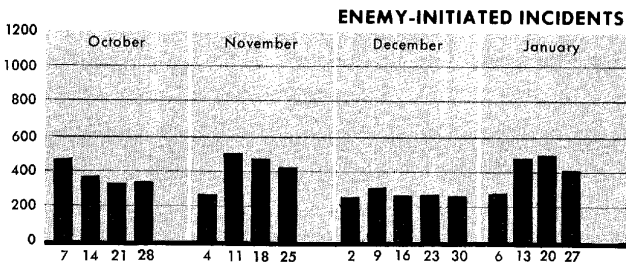
US BATTLE DEATHS decreased to two from the four reported last week.



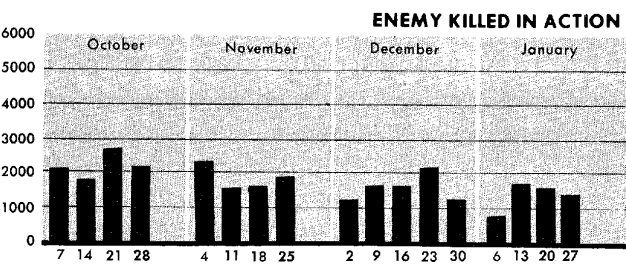
SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS totaled 396 for the week. This figure is preliminary and may change considerably as more complete information becomes available.



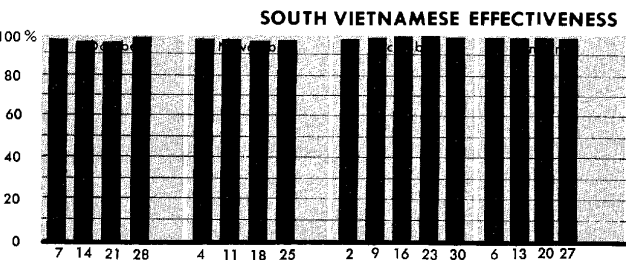
INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE include two regular and three "gap fill," groups totaling 1,500 personnel. The estimate of infiltrators destined for South Vietnam and Cambodia since 1 October 1972 now stands at some 44,500 - 46,500.



ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS declined to 402 from last week's 502.



ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION fell to 1,433 from the 1,644 of last week.



SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS as measured by the percentage of enemy killed in ground combat by GVN forces remained at 100%.

Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

Enemy pre-cease fire activity to expand their control over population and territory began in earnest throughout South Vietnam on the night of 26 - 27 January and has continued in varying degrees up to the present time. Large scale actions have occurred in the Que Son Valley of Military Region (MR) 1, south of Pleiku in MR 2, and at Tay Ninh City in MR 3. There have been numerous artillery and mortar attacks as well as minor ground probes, with the greatest number of incidents in the Delta. Except for northern Quang Tri Province and perhaps Tay Ninh City, in many areas much of the fighting has been conducted by predominantly Viet Cong local forces, with major North Vietnamese Army units remaining in the background. Although complete casualty figures are not yet available, the enemy has evidently suffered heavily during these forays without achieving appreciable population or territorial gains.

The most significant enemy activity in Laos during the week was in Military Region II at the Bouam Long base north of the Plaine des Jarres. Though Meo irregulars defending the base have lost one defensive position, and the enemy appears to be preparing an assault of the base, at present the situation does not appear critical. Between Vientiane and Luang Prabang, friendly forces are securing the area around the Sala Phou Khoun road junction, which they had recaptured in the face of stiff resistance. To the south, government forces in the central panhandle have drawn a new defensive line east of Muong Phalane, and enemy pressure has again increased around Thakhek. In the southern panhandle government troops are still advancing on Saravane against light enemy resistance. Action around Paksong, on the Bolovens Plateau, remains light.

Communist military activity throughout Cambodia was at its lowest level in several weeks. During the week the recently relieved town of Romeas received only harassing attacks, and enemy activity against major lines of communications was also at a low level. In the Phnom Penh area, the Communists are carrying out only small attacks by fire against scattered government positions. President Lon Nol has announced that Cambodian government forces will suspend all offensive activity on 29 January. Meanwhile, Sihanouk on 27 January asserted that the Khmer insurgent forces in Cambodia would go on fighting, contending that there was no possibility for stopping the Cambodian conflict unless the United States ceases backing Lon Nol.

Enemy Infiltration and Logistics

During the week, 1,500 new NVA personnel were accepted into the estimate of infiltrators destined for South Vietnam and Cambodia, raising the total since 1 October 1972 to some 44,500 - 46,500.

Throughout Indochina the pace of Communist logistical activity reached peak levels as the North Vietnamese made an intensive effort to move as many supplies southward as possible before the imposition of cease fire restrictions. Within North Vietnam, the previously reported "concerted transportation offensive" in the Panhandle continued, with over 800 vehicles observed moving south through the Vinh area in the four days between 19 and 24 January. A large increase in activity, moreover, was observed in the Laos Panhandle and in northeastern Cambodia where logistic units were attempting to move supplies towards South Vietnam prior to the cease fire. Communist logistic efforts also proceeded at a rapid rate in South Vietnam's MR 1.

~~Top Secret~~